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TELECOPY MESSAGE

DATE: June 1, 2004 TRANSMISSION FAX NUMBER: (703) 872-9306

PLEASE HAND DELIVER THE FOLLOWING TELECOPY MESSAGE TO:

NAME: Examiner Chi Q. Nguyen; Primary/Supervisory Examiner Carl D. Friedman

COMPANY: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

FROM: Bob Lauson

RE: Walburger, Modular Shelter System, 10/083,178

TOTAL PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 9

MESSAGE:

Attached please find several statements attesting to the importance of Mr. Walburger's invention and supporting our contentions of nonobviousness. Additionally attached is an addendum showing possible arrangements of the *self-contained, individual* modules.

We await hearing from you responsive to our fax dated May 27th including when a telephone interview with Examiner Friedman may be held.

cc Randy Walburger

PLEASE CALL (310) 546-8170 IF THIS TELECOPY MESSAGE IS INCOMPLETE OR ILLEGIBLE.

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Housing California

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Independent Living Centers

August 11, 2003

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

RE: **S.H.E.L.T.E.R.** (Supporting Homeless Existence Leading To Enabled Recovery)

Please accept this letter of support for Randy Walburger and his projects (S.H.E.L.T.E.R., Walburger Modules and the S.H.E.L.T.E.R. Drop-In Centers for the homeless).

Randy has presented his ideas, sketches, website information and literature at our annual conference the past two years. As we deal with California's homelessness issues on a daily basis, we have been intrigued with the concept of modular shelters for overnight use and daytime drop-in centers for the legions of homeless people who so desperately need some inclusion in basic human rights (such as being able to sleep without fear of arrest).

We have to accept the fact that funding available for homelessness issues will never come close to meeting the actual needs. We, therefore, need people like Randy to be able to research and test his projects—projects that could provide a much needed alternative to the relatively few shelter beds and transitional units currently available. Homelessness needs a community-based solution, and these module units are small (550 sq. ft), affordable, and can be easily disbursed within our communities.

Because his ideas have merit and promise, we urge Community Partners to offer project sponsorship to Mr. Walburger and S.H.E.L.T.E.R.

Sincerely,



Susan Williams
Director of Communications & Events

Housing California is a statewide coalition of non-profit developers, homeless service organizations and other housing advocates. Our 1,400 members develop affordable rental and owner-occupied housing and operate homeless shelters.

525 J Street, Suite 1400 • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.housingca.org
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Housing California

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August 11, 2003

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

RE: S.I.E.L.T.E.R. (Supporting Homeless Existence Leading To Enabled Recovery)

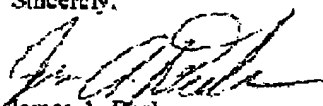
Please accept this letter of support for Randy Walburger and his projects (S.I.E.L.T.E.R., Walburger Modules and the S.I.E.L.T.E.R. Drop-In Centers for the homeless).

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Sincerely,


James A. Becker
Executive Director

Housing California is a statewide coalition of non-profit developers, homeless service organizations and other housing advocates. Over 1,400 members develop affordable rental and owner-occupied housing and operate homeless shelters.

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Access Center

Campion Counseling

Daybreak Day Center
& Shelter

Night Light Youth
Outreach Services

Sojourner Services
for Battered Women
& Their Children

Turning Point
Transitional Housing

September 25, 2003

Ms. Sharla Strong
Community Partners
606 South Olive Street, Suite 2400
Los Angeles, CA 90014

Re: S.H.E.L.T.E.R. Concept for Modular Units

Dear Ms. Strong:

I have had the opportunity to review the materials prepared by Randy Walburger regarding his concept to develop and test the usefulness of S.H.E.L.T.E.R.'s modular units for homeless people. Mr. Walburger and I have also discussed in more detail the particulars around the design and implementation of the modules. His passion for the project is evident and he has been a consistent advocate for creating safe alternatives to living on the streets. As the director of an agency that struggles with the challenges of finding adequate shelter for hundreds of people a year, I can appreciate the difficulty he faces in trying to create additional places for people to sleep.

I believe his concept has merit and deserves to be piloted to test its effectiveness. The obvious challenges of finding adequate space to locate the modules, overcoming neighborhood resistance, and complying with whatever building and safety or fire codes would be imposed are issues facing all shelter providers. Those should not be the reasons to impede the development of this concept. If those obstacles can be overcome, and adequate resources to operate the program can be identified without negatively impacting the current bed inventory or services, this concept might provide a valuable addition to the current emergency shelter system. It is not the solution to homelessness. It is a humane and potentially cost effective way to provide temporary shelter in a safe environment for people who would otherwise be left to live on the streets exposed to the elements.

Without accessible year round shelter in all regions throughout Los Angeles county we will continue to see increasing numbers of homeless people living on the streets and in public areas. The current system doesn't have the capacity to house everyone who desires shelter. We must be creative in using our resources effectively to expand capacity and provide opportunities for people to move off the streets. S.H.E.L.T.E.R.'s modules may provide such an opportunity.

Sincerely,


John Maceji
Executive Director

cc: Randy Walburger

606 South Olive Street, Suite 2400, Los Angeles, CA 90014
Tel: (213) 413-1111 Fax: (213) 413-1112

11/25/2003 11:51

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PAGE 01



Founded 1865

The Salvation Army

Santa Monica Corps
P.O. Box 7065
Santa Monica, CA 90406-7065

CAPTAINS
BRIAN & IVA WEST
Corps Officers

Corps Community Center
1533 Fourth Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

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Fax 310/394-7398

THEODORE M. DUES
Executive Director

SAMOSHEL
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Santa Monica, CA 90401

310/581-9825
Fax 310/581-9314

WILLIAM BOOTH
Founder

JOHN GOWANS
General

DAVID EDWARDS
Territorial Commander

ALFRED R. VAN CLEEF
Divisional Commander

Tuesday, November 25, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: S.H.E.L.T.E.R. Concept for modular units

After having reviewed the materials pertaining to Randy Walburger's modular shelter units, and after having listened to his presentation of the details and specifics for the application of this innovative idea, I believe this concept is worthy of further consideration and pilot testing.

In this era of decreased funding for services and increased demand for services, it is necessary for all of us to be open-minded and willing to explore alternative, forward-thinking ideas that supplement the existing system of shelter for the homeless.

This concept will not solve homelessness, nor do I think it should attempt to replace the existing emergency shelter system. It may, however, prove to be a valuable component of our current continuum of care model.

There would be challenges in establishing this modular concept (space, funding, security, public resistance, building codes), but these challenges should not overshadow the challenges our community faces in addressing the fact that people are left to sleep on our streets, in our parks, exposed to the elements.

I am willing to provide some oversight and objective evaluation of a pilot testing project if the opportunity presented itself. To condone or to reject this concept prior to objective testing of its effectiveness, practicality, and humanity seems to suggest a level of hypocrisy that is unaffordable in our current crisis of homelessness.

Faithfully yours,


Theodore M. Dues
Executive Director

May 31 04 12:57p

Randy Walburger

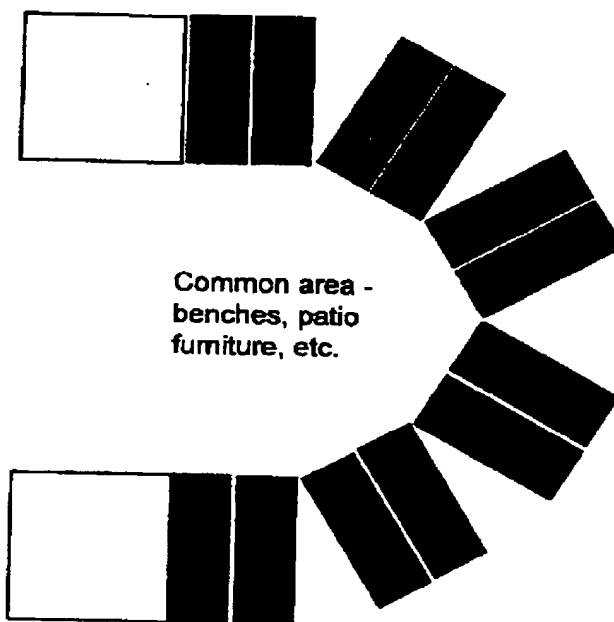
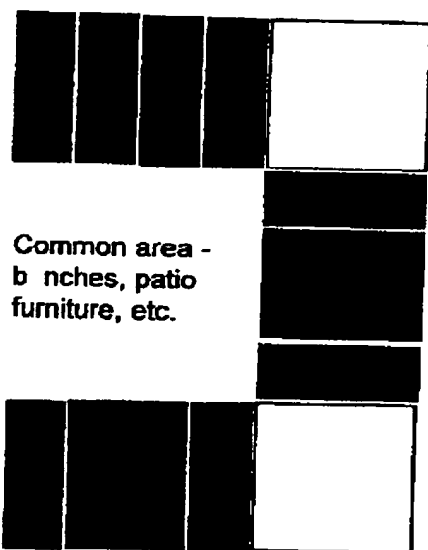
310 828 9328

p. 5

ADDENDUM

Because Walburger Modular Shelters are truly self-contained individual modules, they can easily be arranged in any configuration to take advantage of space and terrain.

Typical layouts:



Key

- Sleeping module (2 high)
[3.5' x 9.5']
- Sanitary Module
[9.5' x 9.5']

NOTES:

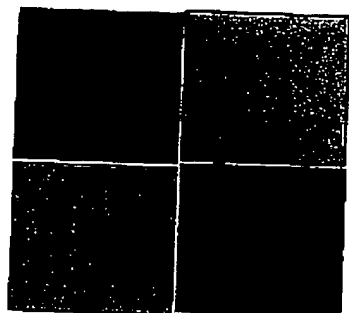
1. Optional 'feet' stabilize modules on rough ground, allow for drainage underneath.
2. Sleeping modules are normally faced alternately front/rear for privacy, but their flexible design allows them to be faced all front, or even front/side or front/rear/side. Side stacking permits 3-high stacking, allowing 6 guests in a 9.5' x 9.5' square area (step ladder or ramp required to enter/exit top tier.)

May 31 04 12:57p

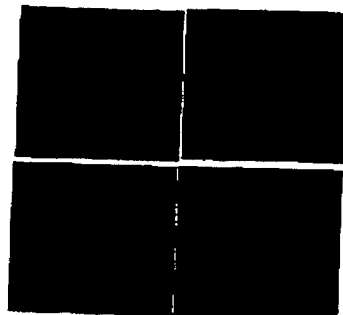
Randy Walburger

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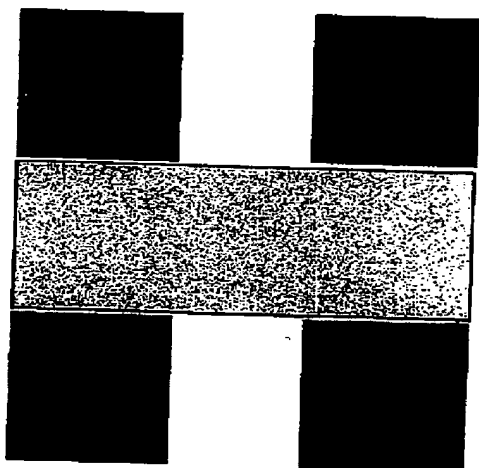
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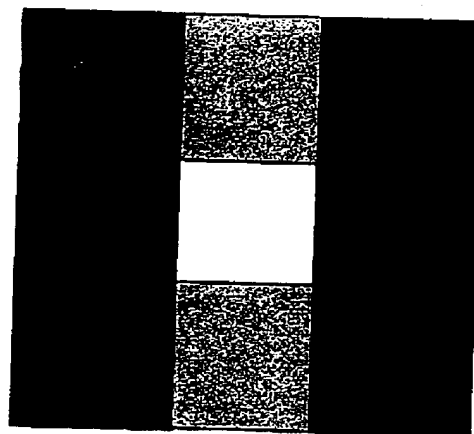
FRONT VIEW - Standard design, alternating front and rear facings



FRONT VIEW - Special design with all modules opening to front



FRONT VIEW of optional three-tier application. Interlock design allows custom stacking, widening base, increasing stability, allowing third tier to conserve space. Ladder or ramp(not shown) required to enter/exit top tier.



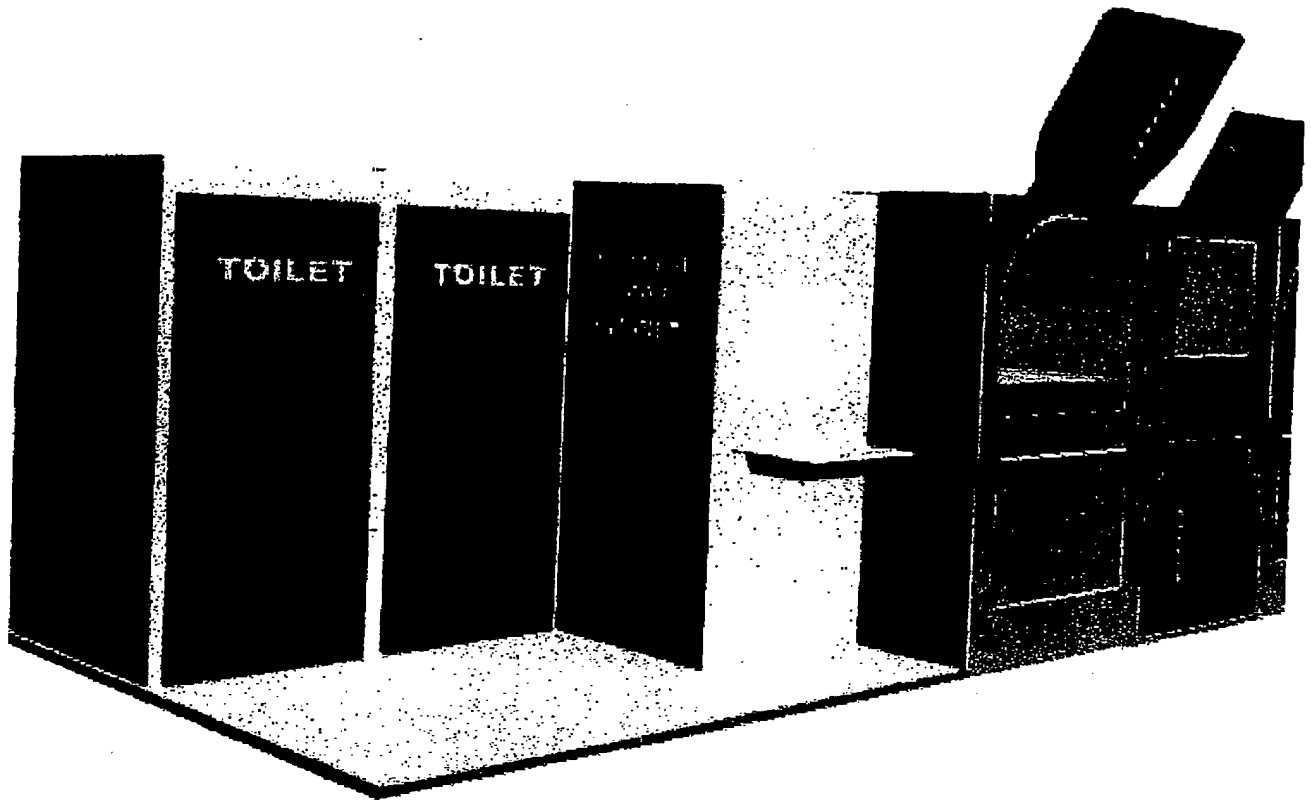
TOP VIEW of three-tier application. Note that first and third tier are aligned for stability.

May 31 04 12:57p

Randy Walburger

310 828 9328

p.3



P.9

310-546-8171
310 828 9328

Robert J. Lauson
Randy Walburger

Jun 01 04 11:53a
May 31 04 12:57p

